

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1341

By Carr

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Siori Koener upon winning the annual Letters About Literature Contest.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those students who have distinguished themselves in the classroom and are current and future leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Siori Koener, an eighth grader at Christiana Middle School, is one such exceptional young woman who recently won the annual Letters About Literature Contest, a reading promotion program of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress; and

WHEREAS, 55,000 children in grades four through twelve competed for this national honor by composing a letter to an author who had inspired them and altered their view of the world or themselves, but the illustrious prize was only bestowed upon six talented and promising young scholars; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Koener's distinguished and poignant essay was directed to the late J.D. Salinger, author of *The Catcher in the Rye*, and beautifully described how his masterpiece had made her realize that feeling that she did not fit the cultural norm would only help her accept and learn many important life lessons; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of her extraordinary achievement, Siori Koener was presented a \$500 Target gift card, and Christiana Middle School Library was awarded a \$10,000 library reading grant; and

WHEREAS, Siori Koener's display of intellectual aptitude and ambition surely bodes well for her success in the classroom and throughout life; and

WHEREAS, her noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for family, her school, and her community; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Koener's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Siori Koener upon winning the annual Letters About Literature Contest and extend to her our best wishes for every future success in the classroom and in life.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.